

**THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY**

2nd July, 2025

Proposition No. P.2025/68

Election of Members of the Policy & Resources Committee

Motion under Article 7(1) of the Reform (Guernsey) Law, 1948

Proposed by: Deputy N Inder

Seconded by: Deputy H Camp

To vary Rule 16(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees, for the purposes of the current meeting of the States only, to the extent necessary to permit the following:

The Presiding Officer shall allow Members, whether there are four or fewer candidates or the election is contested, to question the candidates before voting takes place;

Provided that:

- i. the questions shall relate to areas of the policy included in the mandate of the Policy & Resources Committee;
- ii. no Member may ask more than one question, save that if before the expiration of the period prescribed in sub-paragraph vi there are no further questions, Members who have already asked a question may be permitted to ask further questions;
- iii. the questioner may not speak for more than 30 seconds;
- iv. each candidate shall be entitled to respond to each question, but no response shall exceed 1 minute;
- v. candidates shall answer the first question in the order in which they are nominated and thereafter the order of answering the questions shall, after each question has been answered by the candidate, be rotated by moving the name of the candidate at the top of the list to the bottom of that list;
- vi. the session shall conclude at the expiration of the period calculated by multiplying 10 minutes by the number of candidates; and
- vii. no Member shall be entitled to speak other than in accordance with the provisions of this sub-paragraph.

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The amended proposition contributes to the States' objectives and policy plans by seeking to ensure the effective scrutiny of candidates for the Senior Committee.
- b) In preparing this amendment no consultation has taken place.
- c) The amendment has been submitted to His Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) There are not considered to be any direct financial implications for the States of Guernsey.
- e) Drafting advice was sought from the States' Greffier.

Explanatory Note

The States of Deliberation's procedures are set out by the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees and under Article 7(1) of the Reform (Guernsey) Law, 1948 the States of Deliberation may by resolution "vary, revoke or suspend such Rules or any of them". This is a motion under Article 7(1) which seeks to permit a period of questions prior to the voting for the election of members of the Policy & Resources Committee.

The election for members of the Policy & Resources Committee is governed by Rule 16(5) of the Rules of Procedure. Such elections are already treated different to the elections of members when compared with other States' Committees to recognise the Policy & Resources Committee's position as the Senior Committee. However, a combined 15 minutes of speeches for each candidate does not afford the States of Deliberation sufficient opportunity to scrutinise candidates for the Senior Committee.

The motion would prescribe how the question time would be carried out and mirrors the period of questions that takes place in the election of a President while reducing the calculated aggregate time in anticipation of the larger number of candidates and in the interest of preventing a significant elongation of the election process.